GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2197
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2007
ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL RIGHT TO ST COMMISSION
Kumar Shri Shailendra

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Scheduled Tribes has faced any insufficiency in regard to its identity and legal rights;

(b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to accord administrative and legal rights to the Commission for Scheduled Tribes as accorded to Election Commission and National Human Rights Commission;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be accorded; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a): National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has intimated that it needs to be further empowered by making its recommendations relating to safeguards available to STs mandatory. Also, the vacancies of Vice-Chairperson and two Members of the Commission need to be filled up.

(b), (c) and (d) : As the Commission has been set up under the Constitution as an advisory body, there is no proposal to bring any amending legislation equating them to the Election Commission and National Human Rights Commission. Regarding the vacancies existing in the ST Commission, the process to fill the said posts has been initiated.